

## Planeview Project Abstract

The Planeview Project was developed and implemented using the SARA model to address a spike in violent crime and a continuing decline in quality of life in the Planeview area of Wichita.

By the late 1990s, Wichita residents had become accustomed to living in one of the safest communities of its size in the country. The Police Department, having won the gang wars in the early and mid 1990s, and successfully implementing community policing in 1995, had widespread public support. Citizens were accustomed to the Police Department working in partnership with neighborhoods, and responding swiftly and efficiently to crime. So as violent crime continued to escalate in the early 2000s in the Planeview area, police and citizens alike became increasingly alarmed. Things came to a head when a gang member fired shots at two City Parks Department employees who were removing graffiti.

In order to gain a clear understanding of the problems plaguing the Planeview area, and to keep the project on track, the Department utilized a number of different analytical tools including: demographic data, neighborhood surveys, crime analysis, calls for service and observation.

After completing the initial analysis, the Department wanted to accomplish the following objectives:

- ?? Reduce violent crime in Planeview
- ?? Reduce juvenile crime in Planeview
- ?? Enhance relationships with citizens in Planeview
- ?? Develop partnerships with stakeholders in Planeview
- ?? Address neighborhood blight
- ?? Instill a sense of pride and ownership in Planeview

In order to effectively address the problems in Planeview, a wide range of strategies was considered, and most of them implemented. The responses basically fell into two categories with some overlap: crime related strategies and quality of life strategies.

The results for this project were outstanding! Juvenile crime, which typically increases in the summer, dropped by 32 percent from June through September. During this time frame auto burglaries were reduced by 12 percent and residential burglaries were reduced by three percent. Larcenies were reduced by eight percent, and vandalisms, including graffiti, were reduced by nine percent. These combined numbers culminated into a 32 percent decrease in crimes related to juveniles. In terms of violent crime, there has not been a homicide in Planeview since Dec. 31, 2001. From December 2001 to December 2002, aggravated assaults dropped by 57 percent and simple assaults decreased by 78 percent.

The Wichita Police Department is committed to maintaining the Planeview Project and continuing to work with citizens and stakeholders in further improving the quality of life and addressing any crime trends that surface in Planeview. The Department believes that with minor modifications, this project could easily be adapted to any community experiencing a similar problem. This many-faceted project brought new services to the Planeview neighborhood while strengthening relationships between Police, local businesses, citizens and social service providers. Because many of the strategies used were new and unique, they generated excitement, interest, and a sense of community pride. Cooperation and communication among the many agencies that now provide services in Planeview continues to grow and expand. As new challenges arise, stakeholders now know who to call and collaborate with in order to problem-solve and formulate solutions. Violent crime continues to decline and quality of life continues to improve, thanks to the Problem Oriented Policing Planeview Project.

## ***Detailed Project Document***

The Planeview Project was developed and implemented using the SARA model to address a spike in violent crime and a continuing decline in quality of life in the Planeview area of Wichita.

Situated in the far southeast corner of the city, the Planeview area didn't welcome in the new millennium with hopes of a bright future, but rather a wave of violent crime and deterioration in quality of life in the neighborhood. One would have to be almost three-quarters of a century old to remember Planeview in its glory days. In order to understand the nature of the challenges facing Planeview in the early 2000s, it's important to understand its demographics, culture and history.

The city of Wichita has a population of approximately 345,000 and covers 152 square miles. The Planeview area covers approximately one square mile and is home to approximately 4,270 citizens. (See attachment 1)

Planeview was born during the peak of World War II when the government helped provide homes for families who had flocked to Wichita to work in the aircraft industry. It was an "instant city" built just outside Wichita that contained 4,382 housing units.

At one point, Planeview had a population close to 20,000 and was Kansas' seventh-largest city. It had its own school system, its own business district, grocery stores and post office, even its own fire department and police force.

As World War II came to a close airplane building stopped, and the airplane companies were left scrambling for work to keep their assembly lines running as the country shifted into post-war life. Aviation employment in Wichita dropped drastically, for instance, it fell by about 15,000 in one month in 1945.

Planeview, which was built to be torn down after the war, wasn't. Houses were sold to private owners, and the area eventually was annexed into the city of Wichita. Almost 60 years later, about half the government-built houses in Planeview still remain. While Wichita as a whole grew and prospered, Planeview continued on its downward spiral.

By the late 1990s, Wichita residents had become accustomed to living in one of the safest communities of its size in the country. The Police Department, having won the gang wars in the early and mid 1990s, and successfully implementing community policing in 1994, had widespread public support. Citizens were accustomed to the Police Department working in partnership with neighborhoods, and responding swiftly and efficiently to crime. So as violent crime continued to escalate in the early 2000s in the Planeview area, police and citizens alike became increasingly alarmed. Things came to a head when a gang member fired shots at two City Parks Department employees who were removing graffiti.

**Friday, May 25, 2001, 23:30, 2961 S. Sayles.** Music thumps loudly from the dilapidated duplex. Earlier in the evening those in the residence had quickly and proficiently sought cover when the 1984 Buick drove by and its faceless passenger opened fire on the clapboard structure. Several shots hit the duplex, splitting already weakened boards and shattering windowpanes.

No one bothers to call the police; after all, in this game of gang warfare, those in the house believe that the next move is theirs. They are caught by surprise when three dark-haired young men kick in the door and open fire. The sound of gunfire echoes throughout the neighborhood; sadly it's a sound that's all too familiar. A 20-year-old man lay dead on the floor – his body riddled with bullets.

**Friday, November 10, 2001, 22:50, Yale and Dunham Streets.** It's a crisp fall night and furnaces rattle noisily inside the little duplexes that line Dunham Avenue. Outside, muffled voices are heard shouting and arguing, but that's not unusual on Dunham Avenue. With rival gang

members living in such close proximity to each other, the slightest perceived disrespect can escalate into a life-threatening situation. On this night, as quickly as the shouting stops, the gunfire begins. In a matter of seconds the street is littered with dozens of shell casings. Bullets leave gaping holes in cars and in every duplex on the south side of the street.

A sleeping Vietnamese family wakes to find a bullet hole in their headboard that wasn't there when they laid down, but they are reluctant to make a police report in fear of retribution. Car tires squeal in the darkness carrying a 30-year-old man to a local hospital. Miraculously he receives the only injury--a minor gunshot wound.

As the sun rises the next morning, Police count more than 40 AK-47 shell casings, 15 casings from a 22 pistol, at least half a dozen 9 mm rounds and five shotgun rounds. Dunham Avenue looks like a war zone.

**Monday, December 31, 2001, 11:40, 3100 S. Davidson.** It's a beautiful sunshiny morning on the last day of 2001. Children play in their yards and ride their bicycles up and down the sidewalks, happy to be on Christmas break. Suddenly a shot rings out. A car speeds away, and a 26-year-old man lay dead in the middle of the street. For a neighborhood already weary of violent crime, residents wonder how much more they can stand as they watch police process the scene. Another drug deal gone bad. Another life lost. (See attachment 2)

**Tuesday, January 8, 2002, 13:16, 2800 S. Jewett.** Two City of Wichita employees brave the cold, determined to accomplish their goal in Planeview Park. A picnic shelter has been "tagged" in what seems to be a relentless battle for gang territory. As the employee paints over the graffiti, he notices a young male watching him, and he appears to be angry. The young man and a little girl leave the park and get into a van. As they drive away, the man stops the van, sticks a gun out the window, and opens fire. The City employee is not injured, but will never again view his job in the same manner.

This unprovoked attack upon a City worker proves to be the last straw. With extensive local media coverage of each violent incident, public outcry was loud and clear. Police, community members, media representatives and City leaders all expressed concern over the growing violence in Planeview. This little area of Wichita definitely had more than its share of problems including homicides and aggravated assaults; drug and gang crime; and quality of life issues such as vandalisms, graffiti, junk cars and trash.

The urgency to address the violent crime was obvious, but quality of life issues were also of critical concern; the Department felt compelled to address both the violent crime and the quality of life issues in order to fulfill the Department's Mission Statement to "provide professional and ethical public safety services in partnership with citizens to identify, prevent and solve the problems of crime, fear of crime, social disorder and neighborhood decay, thereby improving the quality of life in our community."

In order to gain a clear understanding of the problems plaguing the Planeview area, and to keep the project on track, the Department utilized a number of different analytical tools including:

**Demographic data:** According to 2000 census data, in Planeview:

? ? 73 percent of the dwellings are rentals

? ? A language other than English is the primary language in 55 percent of the households

? ? The median income is only \$25,647 per year

? ? Fifty-seven percent of those living in Planeview do not have a high school education; 29 percent have a high school education or GED, and only four percent have a college education

? ? The median age of Planeview residents is 24 years

? ? 40 percent of residents are foreign born

Racial composition compared to the city:

	<u>Planeview</u>	<u>Wichita</u>
White	45 percent	72 percent
Hispanic	25 percent	10 percent
Asian	22 percent	Four percent
Black	Eight percent	11 percent
Native American	Three percent	One percent

**Neighborhood surveys:** The Department had its own agenda, which included eradicating violent crime, drug trafficking and gang violence. What the Department didn't have, was information on what people living in Planeview wanted. In order to gather the information, the Department surveyed 500 area residents in face-to-face interviews. The results were surprising. In spite of the history of violent crime, 46 percent of those surveyed said they felt safe, 30 percent said they usually felt safe and 11 percent said they felt very safe.

They were more concerned with quality of life issues such as trash, abandoned vehicles and animals running at large, than they were with violent crime; and they overwhelmingly cited unsupervised juveniles and juvenile crime as a major concern.

**Crime Analysis:** In conjunction with compiling the survey results, the Department looked at crime rates in Planeview giving consideration to what crimes were being committed with the most frequency and during what time of day they were occurring.

**Calls for Service:** Calls for service in the area have steadily declined over the past five years; however, they were still disproportionately high compared to the rest of the city. Following traffic stops, disturbances are the next highest call Officers are called to in Planeview. (See attachment 3)

**Observation:** The Planeview area is one of the most economically deprived areas of the city. In walking through the area, it was not difficult to spot abandoned vehicles, trash, unkept yards, dilapidated houses, and the many other quality of life issues that were plaguing the area.

Since shortly after the development of the Planeview area during World War II, crime and quality of life issues have been a concern. The Department saw a moderate decline in crime, (See attachment 4) and in improvement in quality of life, when it implemented Community Policing in the mid 1990s; however, in 2000 and particularly in 2001, there was a sharp incline in several of the index crimes including homicide, aggravated assaults, domestic violence and vandalisms. Rather than wait for the situation to deteriorate, the Department took immediate action.

Individuals who actually live in the neighborhood perpetrate most crimes in Planeview. The area residents are also responsible for most of the quality of life issues, with landlords shouldering some responsibility in failing to keep up their properties.

The situation in Planeview was a harmful one because in addition to the loss of life, on which no value can be placed, extensive property damage was occurring due to the gang related drive-by shootings, vandalism and graffiti. Additionally, quality of life for all residents

of the area was diminished. Allowing these elements to go unchecked would be detrimental to the community and contrary to the Department's Mission.

Planeview has historically been one of the highest patrolled areas of the city due to the number of calls for service, but that type of traditional approach obviously wasn't working. There was a Community Police Officer assigned to this area that played an active role in addressing many of the issues in Planeview; however, the issues facing Planeview were more than any one person or even

one agency could undertake. Making a significant impact in Planeview would take a coalition of energetic and committed agencies.

During the analysis phase of the project, several barriers and conditions were identified that contributed to the decay that was occurring in Planeview. Most of the suspects and victims of crime in Planeview live below the national poverty level. Many of the residents speak a language other than English, as 40 percent of them are foreign born, and many of them have a distrust of police. The analysis also showed that quality of life issues were important to the residents, as well as providing opportunities for their children.

The analysis was interesting in that what Police perceived as the primary problem (a spike in violent crime) was very different than what the community perceived as the primary problem (quality of life issues; see attachment 5). The Department felt it was important to understand what the community valued, and to work on those issues in order to develop buy-in and build partnerships that would be beneficial in addressing other crime.

A public meeting was held on Jan. 16, 2002, at the Colvin Mini City Hall in Planeview. The meeting was advertised in the local newspaper and on area television and radio stations. Because the area has a large population of Vietnamese and Spanish-speaking residents, interpreters attended the meeting.

More than 60 citizens, representatives of the Police Department--including the Chief of Police--the City's Public Information Officer, the Neighborhood Assistant and other City officials, as well as media representatives attended the meeting. Information was exchanged about the recent violent crimes that had occurred in an effort to reduce anxiety and fear in the community, enable citizens to become co-producers of public safety, and develop partnerships for addressing crime and quality of life issues. (See attachment 6)

In order to effectively address the problems in Planeview, a wide range of strategies was considered, and most of them implemented. The responses basically fell into two categories with some overlap: crime related strategies and quality of life strategies.

After completing the initial analysis, the Department wanted to accomplish the following objectives:

- ?? Reduce violent crime in Planeview
- ?? Reduce juvenile crime in Planeview
- ?? Enhance relationships with citizens in Planeview
- ?? Develop partnerships with stakeholders in Planeview
- ?? Address neighborhood blight
- ?? Instill a sense of pride and ownership in Planeview

In order to successfully reach these goals, the following strategies were developed and implemented.

**Crime related strategies:**

1. The Gang Unit immediately targeted identified gang members who lived and committed crimes in the area. The Unit worked with Patrol Officers and arrested several of the

notorious gang members on narcotics charges and graffiti vandalisms. These arrests had an immediate impact on violent crime in the area and gave the neighborhood confidence in the Wichita Police Department's ability to impact the situation.

2. In conjunction with the aforementioned, the Department moved additional resources to the area including Special Community Action Teams to address violent crime and violent offenders. SCAT Officers serve as the enforcement arm of Community Policing and focus their efforts on

violent crime in neighborhoods. Instead of being driven by 911 calls, they respond to neighborhood complaints.

3. Additionally, the Department did benchmarking with other agencies, i.e. they worked with State Parole in tracking, locating and arresting Parole absconders in the area. They also partnered with the Department of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms on firearms cases coming out of Planeview and worked with the U.S. Attorney's Office to get as many cases as possible charged Federally.

4. To make the Department more visible and approachable, a regular bike patrol was implemented.

**Quality of life strategies:**

1. The Department scheduled several abandoned vehicle tows. Prior to the tow, flyers printed in both Spanish and English were distributed throughout the neighborhood. On three separate dates between March and October, a total of 359 vehicles were towed from the Planeview area. This activity allowed the Department to address complaints the neighborhood had, as well as remove eyesores from the community.

2. The Department partnered with an area businessman who supplied paint and manpower to address graffiti. Two graffiti paint-outs were conducted during the project. On both occasions graffiti was identified in the neighborhood and Officers, along with maintenance men from an area apartment complex came together and painted out the graffiti. The graffiti paint-outs were conducted in conjunction with the everyday reporting of graffiti to the Office of Central Inspections.

3. The Department partnered with area neighborhood associations and conducted neighborhood clean-ups in the Planeview area. In June, the Planeview Neighborhood Association along with the Wichita Police Department conducted a neighborhood clean up. Three packer truckloads of debris and 245 tires were removed. In July, a second clean up was conducted resulting in two skid loads of debris and 29 tires being removed from the area. In September, a third clean up was conducted and volunteer trash trucks were used to haul the debris away.

4. In order to strengthen relationships between Planeview youth, neighborhood residents, neighborhood schools and the Police Department, a Cinco DeMayo celebration and community parade was organized. Officer Jerrell, the School Resource Officer at Jardine Middle School, and festival organizers mapped out the parade route. Officer Jerrell paid for a parade permit and notified the Metropolitan Transit Authority, the US Postal Service and Sedgwick County 911 communications of the street closures that would be occurring, and the time frame.

On May 3, 2002, 15 Police Department members arrived at the school to shut down the streets, and the parade started at 7:30 a.m. with more than 200 children participating. The streets were lined with Jardine students, children from Colvin and Cloud Elementary schools, teachers, parents, citizens, City officials and the news media.

Following the parade, several Hispanic Police Officers assisted in judging decorations at the school. They were able to interact with many of the students and serve as role models, and also interact with the Spanish-speaking parents.

The students then attempted to build the World's Largest Enchilada for the Guinness Book of World Records. This entailed building an enchilada that was 12 feet in diameter and contained more than 400 pounds of hamburger and 300 pounds of cheese. The huge enchilada was cut up and sold to onlookers for \$1 per slice to help offset the cost. The leftover enchilada was wrapped up and delivered to the Lord's Diner and the Union Rescue Mission to feed the homeless. All participating were pleased that the Planeview enchilada will appear in the Guinness Book of World Records 2003 edition. (See attachment 7)

One of the local television stations covered the day's events which not only served to give the neighborhood a sense of pride, but also let the rest of the city know the great things occurring in this once troubled neighborhood.

5. One of the primary concerns identified by Planeview residents was a lack of activities for neighborhood youth. It was anticipated that the problem would intensify once school was out. The Police Department met with key players in the area, and as a group decided to develop the Planeview Activity Camp for Kids (PACK) in order to provide 80 area youth with a positive activity to keep them busy in the summer. It was decided the program would run from noon to 6 p.m. each day with lunch and an afternoon snack provided. Another City program – Summer of Discovery—ran from 8 a.m. to noon daily, so this schedule would allow any youth in that program to also participate in PACK. Colvin Elementary School agreed to open their gym every evening from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., so theoretically, area youth could be involved in an activity 13 hours a day.

Schools in this neighborhood are in session until mid June, so the months of May and June were devoted to preparing for the camp. Organizers:

- ?? developed the camp curriculum--the program was designed to incorporate learning and character building into fun activities such as cooking classes, computer classes, movies, soccer clinic. All efforts were structured as an alternative to gang membership and discipline problems were not tolerated.
- ?? recruited police officers to serve as soccer coaches.
- ?? identified and enrolled high risk youth.
- ?? contacted an English as a Second Language teacher to help supervise the project; this individual was selected due to his outstanding relationship with the area Hispanic community. The City of Wichita Parks and Recreation Department was able to secure funding to pay this individual \$10 per hour to assist with the camp.
- ?? contacted the Davis-Moore Auto Group about financing camp T-shirts. A school employee designed the PACK logo, and logos from sponsors were secured to go on the back of the shirt. Davis-Moore Auto donated \$1,000 to pay for the shirts.
- ?? approached Richard Predmore, owner of Allen-Lee Screen printing, about making the shirts. Officer Jerrell explained the program to him, and explained the problems in Planeview and the lack of activities for the children who live there. Mr. Predmore supported the program and offered to order heavyweight T-shirts and put the logo on the front and back in two colors for only \$4.50 per shirt. The total price for the shirts came to \$602. The shirts were a lime green with black lettering. Officer Jerrell was concerned about using more traditional colors because of gang representation. Two of the more predominate gangs in the Planeview area are the Surenos (who wear blue) and the Vato Loco Boys (who wear black). Officer Jerrell felt that the non-traditional lime green color was perfect because it does not represent any gangs and it allowed a high visibility for camp staff to keep a visual on the youth.
- ?? considered the Kansas summers, which are sweltering. With an outdoor activity in July, dehydration was a major concern. Officer Jerrell contacted the Coleman Company, which donated four three-gallon water coolers and the Quik Trip Corporation donated 1000 cups.
- ?? 21<sup>st</sup> Century schools secured and paid for snacks for PACK participants.
- ?? Neighborhood Assistant Vicki Mork contacted WSU to get college interns to assist with the camp

On July 2, 2002, the soccer clinic, which was scheduled for every Tuesday and Thursday, began. Each day, the youth seemed to like the clinic more and more. They were taken with the

idea of Police Officers teaching them soccer, and often the children would present the Officers with small tokens of their appreciation and lots of hugs. Several of the children clung to the Officers, and the Officers made sure that those children got to be active participants in soccer and got some extra attention.

It was obvious how popular the soccer clinic was because on several occasions other children from the neighborhood could be seen sitting on the center median of the street watching. While it was very tempting to invite those children to participate, all of the PACK parents were required to sign an enrollment form with a release from liability for the City of Wichita, Wichita public schools, and the other organizations that helped sponsor the camp. On the last day of the soccer clinic many of the children expressed their disappointment that it was ending.

The last day of PACK 2002 was August 9<sup>th</sup> and everyone wanted it to be a day that the children would remember, so arrangements were made for all the participants to go to Joyland—a local amusement park. (See attachment 8)

In order to effectively measure success, the Department decided to use the following evaluation criteria:

- ?? A reduction in violent crime
- ?? A reduction in juvenile crime during the summer months
- ?? Improvement in the quality of life for residents in Planeview—to be measured in part by a follow-up survey

The Department felt confident that the strategies it developed in partnership with the community would reduce violent crime and juvenile crime, and improve the quality of life for Planeview residents.

In order to insure success, the Department utilized a myriad of resources including:

- ~~/~~ Police Department: Traffic Officers, Special Community Action Teams, Community Police Officers, School Resource Officers, Patrol Officers, Gang Unit
- ~~/~~ City of Wichita: Office of Central Inspections, Parks and Recreation, Health Department, City Manager's Office, Wichita Fire Department
- ~~/~~ Community Resources: Wichita Public Schools, Communities in Schools, 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools, Healthy Options for Planeview, Wichita Area Girl Scouts, Wichita State University
- ~~/~~ Private businesses: Davis-Moore Auto Group, Quik Trip, Allen-Lee Screen Printing, the Coleman Company, the Wichita Eagle, KSN Channel 3, KWCH Channel 12, Joyland, ArtsCorps.

Prior to implementing the response plan, the Community Policing Beat Coordinator discussed the plan of action with community leaders and Planeview residents. He also included community leaders on how to best implement the response plan. The Beat Coordinator attended neighborhood association meetings and informed citizens of up-coming graffiti paint-outs, clean-ups, bicycle patrols and code enforcement being done by the Office of Central Inspections. He also provided information on how to report crimes, drug houses, code violations and new graffiti.

The most identifiable difficulty encountered during the response implementation phase was neighborhood clean-ups. Traditionally, the citizens of Planeview would dump their debris along the side of the road in front of their residence and expect the volunteers to pick up the debris.



During the first two neighborhood clean-ups in June and July, this same problem occurred along with other neighborhoods coming into the Planeview neighborhood and dumping their debris. A small number of volunteers, along with the Community Policing Beat Coordinator, were tasked with cleaning up the debris along the road and often the local residents would simply sit and watch the volunteers clean up their discarded items. Stakeholders quickly realized that this type of behavior did not instill a sense of ownership in the neighborhood, so a meeting was held with the Planeview United Neighborhood Association about the process of conducting clean-ups. A committee was formed to address the next clean up, and in September, a third clean up was conducted.

During this clean up, the Beat Coordinator worked more closely with the committee and several new rules were implemented. Flyers were distributed days before the clean-up explaining to residents how to dump their debris. A local businessman donated an area to be used as a dumping site. At this site were several packer trucks and skids. The citizens were tasked with bringing their debris to the site and then volunteers assisted with the unloading of the debris into the packer truck. Citizens were informed that dumping debris next to the road would not be picked up and the resident could be cited for illegal dumping.

A large number of volunteers were used to man the entrances and exits of Planeview and were given portable radios. These volunteers monitored the entrances for citizens from other neighborhoods bringing their debris to dump in Planeview. The volunteers also drove in the neighborhood to observe violators of the no dumping policy. If violations were observed, the volunteers would radio a uniformed Officer and the Officer would address the violation. The third clean up, with the new rules and more structure, was well received and was a great success.

Another positive byproduct of the Planeview Project was the translating and printing of Department literature in Vietnamese, Cambodian and Laotian. Since 22 percent of the population in Planeview is Asian, language barriers were an issue. During the scanning phase the problem became apparent and more bilingual Officers were assigned to the area and the Department partnered with the Indo-Chinese Center to have the literature translated. Now, most of the Department's literature (already available in Spanish) will also be available in the other three languages noted above. The literature will be available to other Officers and Detectives on the Department who are working with Asian citizens.

Each year, the Wichita Police Department coordinates anywhere from 50 to 100 neighborhood cleanups throughout the city, and similar problems are encountered while conducting the cleanups. The strategies that were developed to address the cleanup problems in Planeview are being adopted for the entire Department.

The results for this project were outstanding! Juvenile crime, which typically increases in the summer, dropped by 32 percent from June through September. During this time frame auto

burglaries were reduced by 12 percent and residential burglaries were reduced by three percent. Larcenies were reduced by eight percent, and vandalisms, including graffiti, were reduced by nine percent. These combined numbers culminated into a 32 percent decrease in crimes related to juveniles. In terms of violent crime, there has not been a homicide in Planeview since the one that occurred on Dec. 31, 2001. From December 2001 to December 2002, aggravated assaults dropped by 57 percent and simple assaults decreased by 78 percent.

To evaluate the effectiveness of this problem solving effort, the Community Police Officer assigned to Planeview continues to monitor the calls for service and crime statistics in Planeview and formulate strategies to address any trends detected.

Another Citizen survey was also conducted. The first survey was administered to approximately 500 neighborhood residents in January 2002. A follow-up survey was conducted 11

months later in November 2002. The Department was very pleased with the results of the follow-up survey. Some of the more notable changes occurred in:

- ? ? A decrease of 13.2 percent to the “no involvement in resolving neighborhood concerns” question. While more than half of the neighborhood residents are still not actively involved in problem solving, it did drop from 65 percent to 51.8 percent, which indicates the project impacted neighborhood involvement.
- ? ? When asked about feeling safe in their neighborhood, positive responses increased by 11 percent raising the percentage of the respondents who feel safe from 57 percent to 68 percent.
- ? ? In January, only 22 percent of the respondents were aware that they had a Community Police Officer assigned to their neighborhood. By November, that percentage increased to 72 percent. The Department viewed this as a huge accomplishment.
- ? ? When asked if they had ever talked with their Community Police Officer, only 22 percent answered yes in the first survey, but 49 percent responded with a yes to the second survey – an increase of 27 percent.
- ? ? When asked if they found their Community Police Officer to be responsive, 68 percent responded “yes” in the first survey and 94 percent responded “yes” in the second survey – an increase of 26 percent.

Even if the crime rates hadn’t been significantly reduced, this project would still have been considered a success due to the partnerships that were formed and the community buy-in.

The responsibility for evaluating the project was shared among several entities in order to ensure that the results were not biased. Members of the Community Policing East Bureau under the direction of their Captain conducted and compiled the citizen survey. The Department’s Planning and Research section collected and compiled statistical data, and the organizers of the PACK project and the Cinco de Mayo celebration met as a group and evaluated the success of those two ventures.

During the response phase, no identifiable problems were observed. The Department felt that the goals it set out to accomplish were met: reducing violent crime and improving quality of life. One of the things noticed in the final evaluation was an increase in highway and residential robberies in Planeview. Since this trend developed after the implementation of this project, Community Policing, working with the Department’s Robbery Section and Gang Unit to address the Asian Gang members who are committing these robberies, has opened another project. Three of the primary suspects have already been arrested and charged. (See attachments 9 and 10)

The Department measured the results of this program by using the same techniques it used to analyze the problem: citizen surveys, crime statistics, call load and observation.

The analysis of area crime statistics that showed a 32 percent decrease in juvenile crime and overall reduction in gang crime and violent crime and the citizen survey responses.

The Department feels that the plan was extremely effective in addressing crime and quality of life issues. Most of all, the Department is very proud of establishing the PACK program. During the response phase, landowners and landlords were engaged in dialogue about cleaning up their property and abiding by City codes. This was done so that the landlords would take pride in the neighborhood and not let their properties become run down again. This part of the response was not as effective as the Department had hoped it would be; therefore, the Beat Coordinator is

working closely with the City of Wichita Office of Central Inspections to address code violations on residences in Planeview owned by landlords.

No displacement was detected as a result of the project because Planeview residents were committing most of the crimes. The violent crime the Department addressed in Planeview and the quality of life issues that were addressed are not typically crimes that are displaced. This is particularly true of the juvenile crimes that decreased by 32 percent during the summer months. If the Department utilized a traditional approach and used enforcement only, then it's likely there could have been displacement. By giving the youth an alternative activity and getting them to claim ownership of their neighborhood, the chance of creating displacement was eliminated.

The Department plans to continue the PACK project each summer and expand it so that more children can participate. It will also be important for the Department to continue to enhance the partnerships and relationships it developed during this project with the Planeview residents. Because the majority of the dwellings in the area are rentals, Officers continue to do foot patrol, bike patrol, and maintain a high visibility in order to meet citizens new to the area. Officers also regularly attend neighborhood association and neighborhood watch meetings in Planeview.

The Wichita Police Department is committed to maintaining the Planeview Project and continuing to work with citizens and stakeholders in further improving the quality of life and addressing any crime trends that surface in Planeview. The Department believes that with minor modifications, this project could easily be adapted to any community experiencing a similar problem. This many-faceted project brought new services to the Planeview neighborhood while strengthening relationships between Police, local businesses, citizens and social service providers. Because many of the strategies used were new and unique, they generated excitement, interest, and a sense of community pride. Cooperation and communication among the many agencies that now provide services in Planeview continues to grow and expand. As new challenges arise, stakeholders now know who to call and collaborate with in order to problem-solve and formulate solutions. Violent crime continues to decline and quality of life continues to improve, thanks to the Problem Oriented Policing Planeview Project.





# Homicide upsets Planeview

■ Residents of the southeast Wichita neighborhood say they are concerned for their safety.

BY TIM POTTER  
The Wichita Eagle  
JAN 11 2002

In the bright sunshine Monday, someone apparently gunned down a man in the middle of a Wichita street, in a neighborhood already weary of violence.

Police Lt. Ken Landwehr said the 26-year-old Wichita man probably died from a gunshot wound to the head. Police are awaiting results of an autopsy.

It was the 17th homicide of the year.

Neighbors heard a gunshot about 11:40 a.m., Landwehr said. Some witnesses also saw an altercation near two vehicles in the 3100 block of South Davidson Street, he said.

Rescuers found the man dead in the middle of Davidson Street, in the Planeview neighborhood of southeast Wichita.

Monday night, police were questioning a man and asking the public's help in locating a 19-year-old woman, Lana Jackson. Landwehr said that she is not a

suspect but that police are concerned for her welfare. Police ask anyone who sees her or a car she may be driving to immediately call 911. The car is a maroon, 1989 Oldsmobile Regency four-door sedan with the license plate RWO-941.

On Monday, as police blocked off South Davidson and knocked on doors, neighbors stood on street corners and looked toward the man's body.

It upset them. "I don't understand it," said Rodney Durham. "To take a life like that, it's just sad."

"It breaks my heart to see someone laying there."

Police had to leave the man's body in the street for a while to preserve evidence, Landwehr said. He said they processed the scene as quickly as possible.

He said he understood that neighbors would find it disturbing to see the body.

What made this crime scene different, he said, is that the killing was so public. Neighbors said they were already tired of violent crime in Planeview.



Jackson

Please see **HOMICIDE**, Page 8B

## HOMICIDE

From Page 1B

A shock-out in November left one man wounded.

A barrage of gunfire in May killed 20-year-old Chanh Chanthavong. A drive-by shooting in 1998 killed 8-year-old Tony Galvan.

Monday afternoon, a visibly shaken Antonia Soto could see the body lying in the street. She pointed to where Tony Galvan died nearby.

"That was bad enough," she said. She has lived in Planeview for six

years and worries about the safety of her 2-year-old daughter.

She wants more police patrols in her neighborhood.

Police Lt. Barry Von Fange said he understands how upsetting the violence can be. But, he said,

Planeview is "probably one of the most patrolled areas in the city."

The neighborhood generates more disturbance calls and more reports of assaults than many areas of the city, he said. "So we tend to be there more."

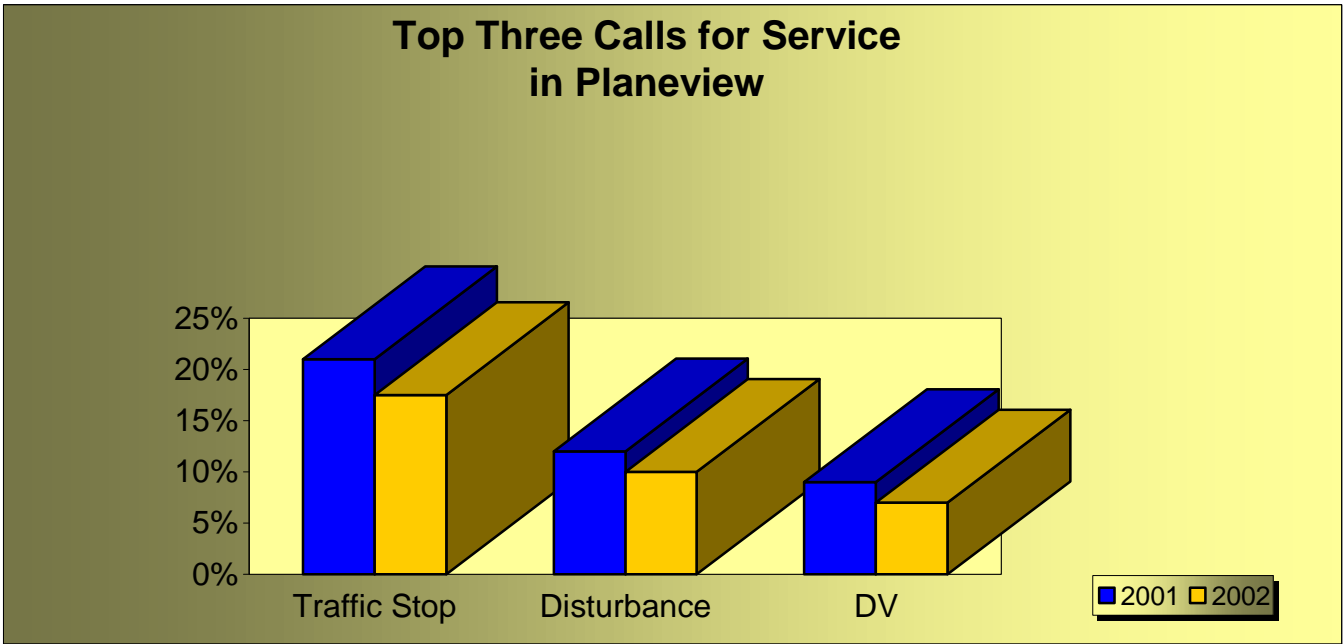
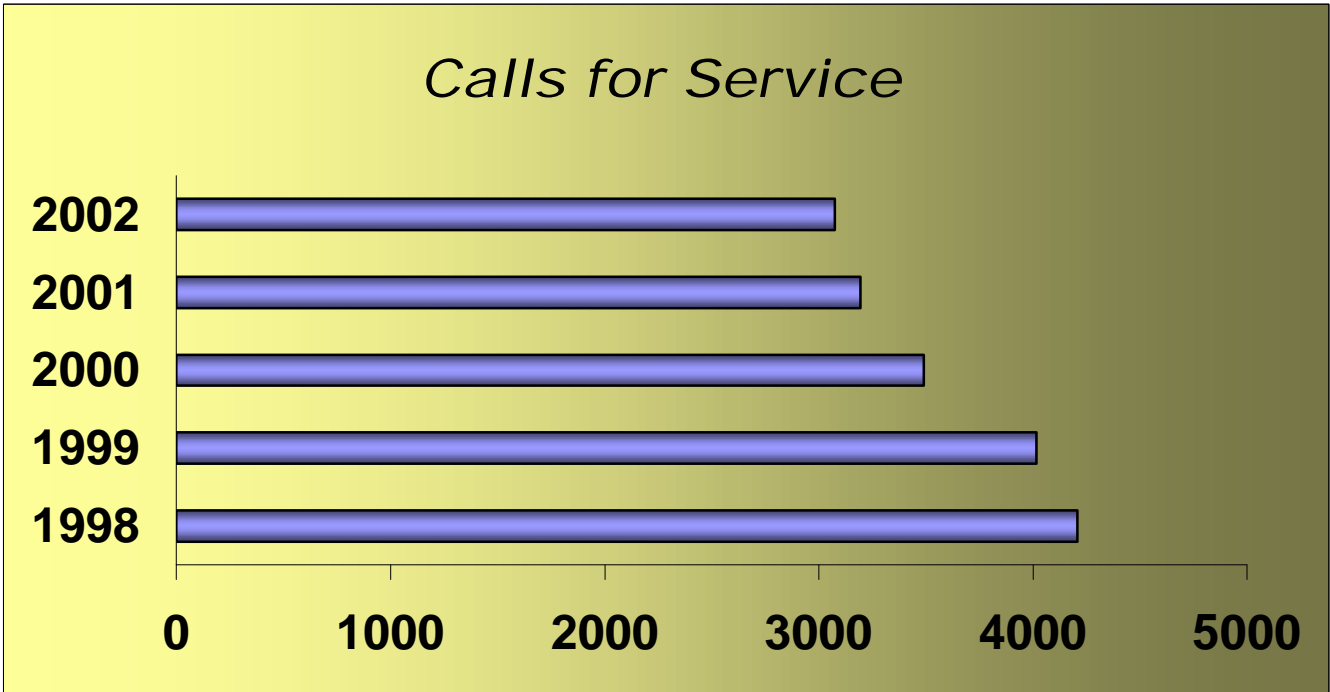
Although Planeview is home to some longtime residents who take care of their property and harm no one, it also has its share of transients and troublemakers, he said.



Mike Hutmacher/The Wichita Eagle

Above: Wichita police Officer S. Safir questions people near the scene of a homicide in south Wichita Monday. Inset: Lana Jackson, 19. Police ask that anyone who sees Jackson or the 1989 maroon Oldsmobile she may be driving to call 911.





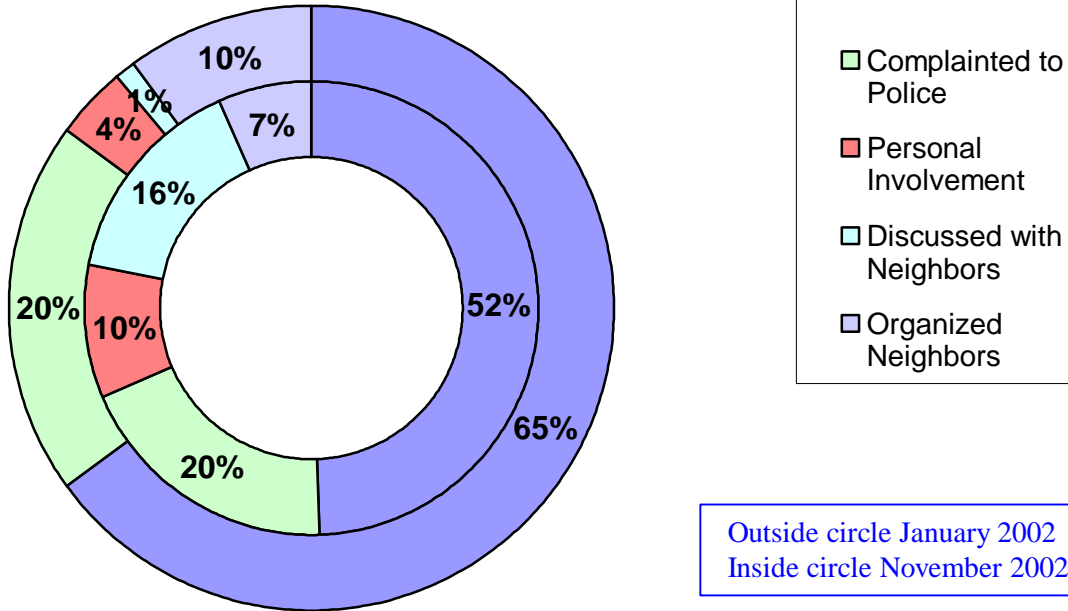
Wichita Police Department  
Planeview Project

	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Homicide	1	0	1	0	1	3	0	0	
Rape	4	5	4	4	5	1	4	1	
Highway Robbery	8	8	13	4	6	3	3	4	
Residential Robbery	4	2	3	4	0	1	3	4	
Agg Assault Driveby	4	8	1	9	3	7	1	6	1
Agg Assault Firearm	5	14	3	8	2	7	4	7	
Agg Assault Clubbing	8	7	4	5	6	8	4	4	
Agg Assault Stabbing	4	7	2	6	2	6	6	8	
Simple Assault	237	263	211	182	154	164	141	164	20
Draw Deadly	27	21	15	17	11	14	14	13	1
DV	207	198	196	138	136	158	131	131	18
Auto Theft	29	34	40	34	46	31	28	18	2
Burglary resid. Night	77	57	48	65	45	32	33	40	3
Burglary resid. Day	37	31	23	28	29	21	15	15	1
Auto Larceny	105	79	51	65	63	41	57	57	5
Larceny (other)	88	78	94	63	45	58	67	42	4
Vandalism	132	156	119	141	130	89	106	117	14
Family Offenses	30	16	24	15	26	19	18	28	3
Drug related	74	64	97	68	71	95	70	48	4
Alcohol related	53	52	36	52	56	39	34	15	1
Disorderly conduct	76	81	65	52	55	62	55	68	5
Dist peace/fighting	14	24	13	13	13	16	21	31	3

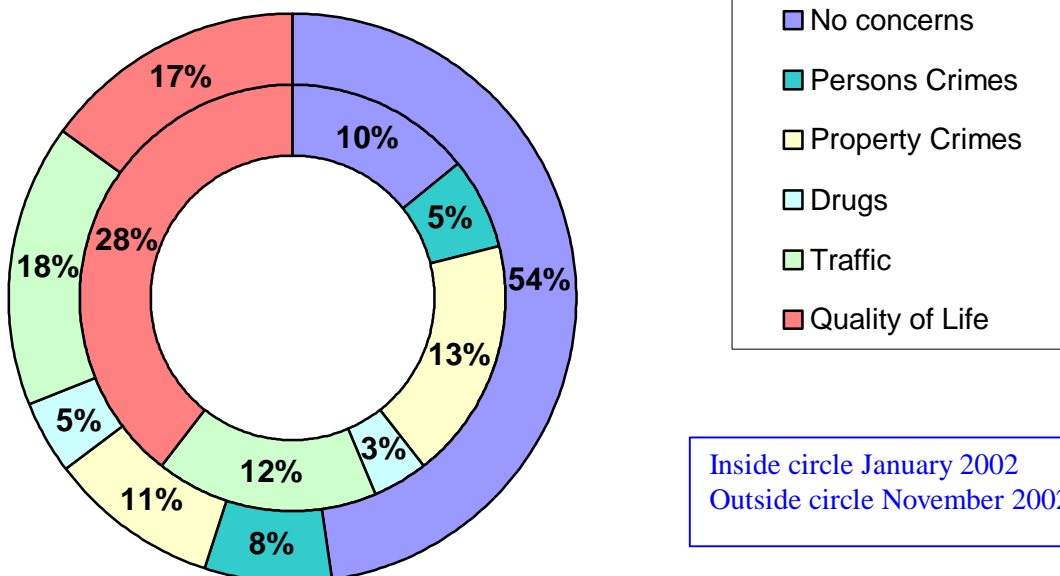




## Neighborhood Involvement



## Concerns identified by residents



# Violent crime in Planeview area prompts neighborhood meeting

BY JOE RODRIGUEZ

The Wichita Eagle **Nov 14 2002**

## WICHITA

All Planeview residents are invited to a meeting Wednesday to talk about crime prevention and safety in the neighborhood.

Police, neighborhood leaders and city officials organized the meeting in response to the recent spate of violent crimes in the southeast Wichita neighborhood.

The meeting will be at 7 p.m. in rooms 116 and 117 of Colvin Elementary School, 2820 S. Roosevelt St.

"We feel like . . . one of the best responses to crime in the neighbor-

hood is a unified neighborhood," said Vicki Mork, the city's neighborhood assistant for the area that includes Planeview. "The more we can connect citizens to government and let them know they are part of the process, part of the solution, the better the results for everyone."

Because the area has such a large population of Vietnamese- and Spanish-speaking residents, interpreters will attend the meeting.

Police are expected to discuss some safety issues and let people know the kinds of things they can do

to report criminal activity, Mork said.

Planeview has recently experienced several violent crimes, including:

■ On Dec. 31, 26-year-old Bennie Zeigler was shot and killed during an altercation in the 3100 block of South Davidson Street.

■ On Jan. 8, an 18-year-old man fired a shotgun at two city workers who were trying to remove gang graffiti from Planeview Park, according to police.

■ In November, police say, a gang shootout near Yale and Dunham avenues injured a 30-year-old man. The shooting left dozens of bullet holes and shell casings in homes, cars and lawns and on streets.

# Cinco de Mayo

## May 2002





# FUN

## WITH A PURPOSE



Randy Tobias/The Wichita Eagle  
Jorge Rodriguez, 9, leaps to high-five Wichita police Officer Jamie Crouch during a soccer clinic at the Planeview Activity Camp for Kids. Wichita police officers lead the soccer clinics at the camp.

## SUMMER KIDS' PROGRAM HELPS PLANEVIEW FIGHT CRIME

Police, city and school officials have joined with the neighborhood to start the free program, which is credited with reducing vandalism.

BY JOE RODRIGUEZ  
The Wichita Eagle

**T**he most eager kids, about a dozen or so, sprint out of Jardine-Edison Junior Academy to the soccer fields. Minutes later, the rest of the elementary and middle school students trickle out of the building to join the game.

Kids laugh as they run into each other while chasing the soccer ball. One boy high-fives a friend. Another boy, maybe 5 or 6, shyly slides over a cone used to mark the goal, in an attempt to give his teammates a wider target.

The youths having the fun are part of a six-week summer program called the Planeview Activity Camp for Kids, or PACK.

Each weekday from 12:30 to 6 p.m., about 75 children from the Planeview neighborhood come to Jardine-Edison for lunch and a variety of activities. The kids, in kindergarten through eighth grade, play chess and take cooking classes. They take math lessons and go on field trips. They go to dance classes and play sports such as soccer.

And thanks to a federal grant and some planning by city and school officials, it's all free.

Please see FUN Page 3E



Randy Tobias/The Wichita Eagle

Francisco Torres, 10, left, and Robert DeLoera, 9, chase down a ball during a soccer clinic at Jardine-Edison Junior Academy. The clinic is part of a youth program called the Planeview Activity Camp for Kids. About 75 youths attend the camp on weekdays.

Attachment #8

### FUN

From Page 1E

"It's a lot of fun," said 13-year-old Justin Mitchell. "I'm glad that they have this for us."

The idea for the camp was created after a spate of violent crimes in the Planeview neighborhood last year. Among the crimes, which included a murder and a gang shooting, Wichita police met with Planeview residents to address neighborhood problems. Among their main concerns was the lack of neighborhood activities for youths.

"If you've got a child living here that doesn't fill their day because they're unsupervised," said community police Officer Jamie Crouch, "they just... tend to fall to defiant behavior."

To help keep kids from hanging out this summer, police, city and school officials got together to talk about how they could help the kids in the neighborhood. They came up with the PACK program.

The program is funded by a federal 21st Century Community Learning Center grant and by donations from Dick Moore, Coleman Co., Quik Trip and Allen Lee Screen Printing. The program is staffed by Wichita public school educators and an intern from Wichita State University.

The children in the camp are from Jardine-Edison and Collins Elementary School, both in Planeview.

The children were selected by their schools to be in PACK based on their need to be involved in summer activities. Some were selected also because they face language and economic barriers that might keep them from suc-

ceeding in school.

Enika Garza, 13, said spending her time in the program is much more exciting than what she would normally be doing those summer days.

"I'd be home, hanging around and watching TV," she said. "This is fun."

It's also helping the neighborhood, according to police. They say crimes are down, especially those involving youths, such as graffiti and vandalism.

"I feel that this program is a large reason why," said Officer Crouch, "that we have fewer calls with other officers to hold soccer clinics for the kids."

The camp runs through Aug. 9, when the kids will be treated to a field trip to Joyland.

"I wish it would keep going," said Justin, one of the teens in the program. "It's been good to have something to do in the day."

